(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to meet the shortcomings in the Urdu teaching schools, to ensure that Urdu attains its last glory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assured Career Progression in ICHR

386. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of ICHR who got departmental promotion in 1992, have been again given the benefit of A.C.P;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these benefits are being given against the rules prescribed for A.C.P.; and

(d) if not, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d) India Council of Historical Research has informed that one Group 'C' employee who was appointed on 21st May, 1975 was given regular promotion in the year 1992. He was given 2nd ACP after completion of 24 years of service *i.e.* 21st May 1999. The ACP was given strictly in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and pensions.

Bifurcation of railway zones

387. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to carve out two new railway zones;